(*c*) Is this not directly opposed to the objects stated by them to be the reason for the appointment of Assistant Tahsildars and to the express provisions of the Land Records Rules?

(*d*) Will the Government be pleased to state the immediate necessity that compelled them to issue this order?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes. Government have just ordered that the sub-division of holdings involved in *pokkuvaravu* cases be dispensed with for the present. The member's attention is invited to G. O. Dis. No. 12 of 24/ Revenue, dated the 6th January, 1924, published in the *Gazette* dated the 8th January, 1924.

(*b*) This is not likely for the reasons stated in the preamble to the G. O. quoted above. Further, that G. O. makes provision for sub-divisions being surveyed on individual applications from parties and plotted sketches being supplied to them, at their cost.

(*c*) The main object of the creation of Assistant Tahsildars was the inspection and survey of *porambokes* and detection of encroachments thereon and the demarcation and survey of *poramboke* numbers and preparation of plotted sketches therefor. The work of sub-division of holdings involved in *pokkuvaravu* cases was also entrusted to them subsequently. The present Land Records Maintenance rules do contain provision for *pokkuvaravu* sub-divisions being effected after actual survey and demarcation on the ground, following the rule requiring the survey of such sub-divisions in the *pokkuvaravu* rules. In view of the change of procedure now ordered dispensing, for the present, with the actual survey and demarcation of *pokkuvaravu* sub-divisions, similar modifications will be made in both sets of rules. (*Vide* the last sentence of paragraph 1 of the G. O. quoted above.)

(*d*) The member is referred to the preamble to the G. O. quoted above.

Sale of a Lion Cub.

126. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) Is it a fact that the tamed lion cub in the Public Gardens has been sold away? If so, at what price and to whom?

(*b*) Was the sale, if true, made with the permission of the Government or in consultation with or with the knowledge of the Superintendent who tamed the cub?

(*c*) What was the necessity for making that sale?

(*d*) If the sale was unauthorised, will the Government be pleased to realise damages from the officer concerned?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes. To Mr. T. M. Raja Ram, Carlson's Grand Circus, Salem, for B. Rs. 350.

(*b*) The sale was effected with the permission of Government at the suggestion of the Director of the Museum and Public Gardens, who is the Superintendent's immediate superior.

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[President.]

(*c*) Superfluity of lion cubs in the zoo and the cost of feeding them.

(*d*) The question does not arise in view of the answer to part (*b*).

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Do the Government think that it is a proper price for a tamed lion?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Was the permission given to sell the tamed lion?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, permission was given to sell one of the cubs.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Was it for the tamed cub?

PRESIDENT: It is clear from the answer. The sale of the tamed lion cub is referred to in the question and the answer also refers to it.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I wish to know whether the Government order is to sell the tamed lion cub.

PRESIDENT: There is the answer to part (*b*). Your question relates to the sale of the tamed lion cub and the answer relates to the same qestion.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): There are two other lion cubs also.

PRESIDENT: We do not know anything about them. This question does not relate to them.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): There are two other lion cubs in the zoo now.

PRESIDENT: That does not arise out of the question.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Then I do not ask the question.

Do not the Government think that the price of Rs. 350 is too low for a tamed lion and do they not think that by proper advertisement this tamed lion cub might have fetched more?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): All lion cubs are tamed.

PRESIDENT: Not necessarily.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are the two cubs tamed?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): They are small cubs and they must be tame. And probably they are being tamed also.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): But is he sure that the two lion cubs are tamed?

PRESIDENT: Where is the reference to that in your question?

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MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I see from the answer to part (*a*) of the question that the lion cub that was sold is a tamed one. What I want to know is why the Director did not sell the untamed lion cubs.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): All the cubs are tame. Young cubs are not so ferocious as grown-up lions.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are the two cubs in the zoo let out in the gardens?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no reference to that in the question.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Do the Government not think that the tamed cub is a more valuable one than an untamed one?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer has already been given.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): But it was not done with proper advertisement. If they had advertised for its sale, it would have fetched more.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is a matter of opinion.

PRESIDENT: Yes, it is a question of opinion; you cannot put it as a question for information.

Lions in the Zoo.

127. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): (*a*) How many lions are there in the gardens?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state the prices at which lions were purchased by them in the past? Were they tame lions?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) There are now no full-grown lions in the zoo.

(*b*) Information is not available.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I want to know whether, when this cub was sold, there was any condition attached to its sale to the man who purchased it.

PRESIDENT: You are referring to a particular cub. Here, in the question, you have referred to more than one lion. Your question is: "How many lions are there in the gardens?"

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): What I want to know is when there is no lion in the zoo what made the Government sell that tamed cub.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer to part (*c*) of the preceding question gives the answer to this supplementary question.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): What is the expenditure, per month, on a lion cub?

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